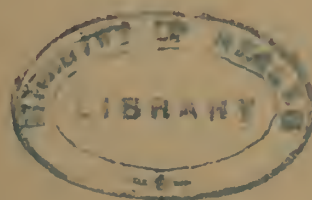


DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

(MEDICAL DEPARTMENT)



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

County Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1945

4, Barnfield Crescent,
EXETER.

September, 1946.

To the Chairman, Aldermen and
Members of the Devon County Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MY LORDS,
LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my seventeenth Annual Report
upon the Public Health of the administrative County of Devon.

The report is an abbreviated one in accordance with the
instructions of the Ministry of Health. The vital statistics for
the whole of the war period will be dealt with in accordance with
instructions which will be issued by the Ministry of Health. The
following statistics which have been prepared for 1945 are again
very satisfactory.

	<u>1945</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>
Birth Rate	15.5	16.4	14.2
Death Rate (All causes)	14.8	14.5	14.4
Maternal Death Rate	2.0	2.4	1.8
Infantile Mortality	47.2	38.8	39.7
Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.5	0.47	0.50
Cancer	2.2	2.1	2.2

I again take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation
of the loyal co-operation and work of all members of my staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

L. MEREDITH DAVIES,

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER.

STAFF OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

There have been no changes in the permanent medical staff during the previous four years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of notifications and deaths from the more common infectious diseases, compared with those for the previous year.

Diphtheria Immunisation campaigns have been actively carried out by many of the local authorities, and the results are shown by the number of notifications and deaths, as compared to previous years.

	SCARLET FEVER		DIPHTHERIA		ENTERIC FEVER		* PNEUMONIA		CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER		ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS & POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS	
	CASES	DTHS	CASES	DTHS	CASES	DTHS	CASES	DTHS	CASES	DTHS	CASES	DTHS
1945	497	2	63	4	12	-	206	199	17	5	15	2
1944	557	3	108	3	29	2	274	223	28	6	23	2
1943	466	2	132	4	25	1	267	233	13	4	1	1
1942	401	1	333	20	47	3	239	223	25	4	5	1
1941	836	4	611	41	58	2	391	317	64	18	10	1

* DEATHS INCLUDE NON-NOTIFIABLE FORMS OF PNEUMONIA

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of primary notifications during the year was 536, compared with 552 in 1944. The number of cases admitted to Residential Treatment was 386 compared with 424 admitted in 1944. There were 259 patients in residence on the 1st January 1945 and 240 in residence on the 31st. December, 1945.

During the year 138 patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were treated at various institutions not administered by the County Council.

Grants of extra nourishment, etc. were made as follows:-

- (1) Extra nourishment - 437 grants at 4/- per week,
- (2) Dentistry - 5 grants,
- (3) Surgical appliances, in addition to appliances recommended and supplied by the Devonian Association for Cripples Aid - nil grants,
- (4) Nursing - 9 grants,
- (5) Fares - 12 grants.

Memo. 266/T.

This memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health in 1943 provided for the granting of allowances to patients and their dependants. Suitable cases are recommended by the Tuberculosis Officers and the patients must agree to carry out the treatment recommended. The Scheme came into operation in this County in September, 1943. During 1945 applications were received from 160 patients. The number of patients who received allowances during the year was 236, this number includes patients who were granted allowances in 1944. The total amount paid in grants was £9,767.5.2., the whole of which is subject to 100% Government Grant.

X - RAYS

During the year the following examinations were carried out by the County Radiographers. These figures are exclusive of examinations carried out by the North Devon Infirmary in respect of North Devon cases, which numbered 1430, and those carried out on behalf of the Exeter City Council (1316).

	MID-DEVON AND IVYBANK	SOUTH DEVON	HAWKMOOR	ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL & OTHER CLINICS	TOTAL
SCREENINGS	1404	877	4410	-	6691
FILMS	2121	2350	846	63	5380
TOTAL	3525	3227	5256	63	12071

HAWKMOOR SANATORIUM

Work has continued uninterrupted throughout the year. The E.M.S. beds mentioned in previous reports remain unoccupied. The main difference from previous years has been the exceptional call on the sanatorium beds owing to the needs of the times. This has been met in part by continuing to use the Recreation Halls on the New Blocks as temporary wards. Work has continued on the New Buildings which will provide an extra 70 beds.

The subjoined tables present in concise form the number of patients and types of case, together with the treatment given. It will be noted that the proportions of T.B.x patients is higher this year. This is because it was decided in consultation with the Tuberculosis Officers that preference should be given to positive cases, other circumstances being equal.

Total number of beds available	160
Total number of patients admitted	190
" " " " discharged, or who have died	194
" " " " days	56,980
Average number of beds occupied	156

Age Classification on admission

	Males	Females	Total
Under 5 years	1	-	1
" 15 "	4	7	11
" 25 "	29	45	74
" 35 "	29	28	57
" 45 "	17	10	27
" 55 "	9	6	15
" 65 "	2	3	5
Over 65 "	-	-	-
	<u>91</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>190</u>

Disease Classification on admission

<u>Pulmonary only</u>	Males	Females	Children	Total
Observation	1	6	1	8
Class T.B. Minus	24	33	5	62
Class T.B. Plus				
Group 1	13	11	-	24
" 2	22	17	1	40
" 3	26	23	1	50
<u>Non-Pulmonary only</u>				
Bones & Joints	-	-	-	-
Abdominal	-	-	-	-
Other Organs	-	1	-	1
Glands	-	1	4	5
				<u>190</u>

RETURN SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE RESULTS OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

NON-PULMONARY

CLASSIFICATION ON ADMISSION	CONDITION AT THE TIME OF DISCHARGE	DURATION OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT IN THE INSTITUTION															
		UNDER 28 DAYS			UNDER 3 MONTHS			3 TO 6 MONTHS			6 TO 12 MONTHS			OVER 12 MONTHS			TOTALS
		M	F	C	M	F	C	M	F	C	M	F	C	M	F	C	
CLASS T.B. MINUS	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	NOT QUIESCENT	1	2	-	6	4	-	8	6	1	8	14	2	1	4	-	57
	DIED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
CLASS T.B.+ GROUP 1	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NOT QUIESCENT	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	6	-	7	4	1	-	2	-	23
	DIED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLASS T.B.+ GROUP 2	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NOT QUIESCENT	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	9	10	-	4	-	-	28
	DIED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLASS T.B.+ GROUP 3	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NOT QUIESCENT	4	-	-	-	3	-	8	4	1	6	5	-	2	5	1	39
	DIED	-	1	1	2	1	-	5	1	1	6	2	-	2	3	-	25
	TOTALS	5	4	1	9	8	-	25	19	3	36	37	3	9	14	1	174
BONES AND JOINTS	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NOT QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	DIED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ABDOMINAL	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NOT QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	DIED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER ORGANS	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NOT QUIESCENT	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
	DIED	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
PERIPHERAL GLANDS	QUIESCENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NOT QUIESCENT	1	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
	DIED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTALS	1	1	-	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	9

Artificial pneumothorax was attempted in 95 cases, of which 68 cases were successful and 27 unsuccessful. In addition to this 15 patients were admitted whose pneumothorax had been induced elsewhere. Artificial pneumoperitoneum has continued to find a limited place in the general therapeutic scheme, and 6 cases were induced during the year. The total refills given during the year amounted to 2,422.

The out-patients clinic continues to do useful work with consultations and refills for patients who live in the neighbourhood.

4 patients had ultra violet ray, and 16 infra red ray therapy.

The following is a summary of the surgical work performed.

Phrenic Nerve Operations	50
Thoracoscopy and cauterization of adhesions	65
Thoracoscopy	5
Thoracotomy and cauterization of adhesions	2
Minor operations	16
Removal of T.B. glands	11
T.B. rib operations	2
Thoracoplasty	8
Cystoscopy	2
Termination of pregnancy	1

Drainage of lung abscess	1
Nephrectomy	2
Diathermy to T.B. ulcer of tongue	1
Laparotomy for abdominal T.B.	2
Extra - pleural-pneumolysis	3

X-RAYS

There were 4,410 screenings made, and 846 films taken, of which 808 were plain chest, 29 orthopaedic, 3 dental, 5 contrast medium films, and 1 abdominal.

DENTAL TREATMENT

As in former years dental treatment has continued to play an important part in the general therapeutic scheme. Analysis of the treatment given is as follows:-

Number of Inspections	164
" found to require treatment	144
" actually treated	96
" of attendances	440
" of fillings of permanent teeth	128
" of teeth filled	106
" of extractions	149
" of other operations	122
" of persons supplied with dentures	7
" of repairs	2
" rendered dentally fit	67

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT

The County Ophthalmic Surgeon has visited from time to time as required.

The following table shows the result of following-up patients who have been discharged since the year 1929, inclusive. Although trace has been lost of several more patients, the total lost sight of is only about 8% of the total follow-up. This is in spite of the fact that many of our evacuee patients have now left the County.

YEAR OF DISCHARGE	UNTRACED	1	2	3	DIED	TOTAL	GRAND TOTALS
1929. T.B.-	6	45	16	2	12	81	
T.B.+ 1	3	7	10	-	10	30	
T.B.+ 2	-	-	3	1	28	32	
T.B.+ 3	-	-	-	-	5	5	148
1930 T.B.-	9	33	14	5	14	75	
T.B.+ 1	3	7	8	-	9	27	
T.B.+ 2	4	-	1	-	32	37	
T.B.+ 3	-	-	-	-	4	4	143
1931 T.B.-	9	47	19	5	10	90	
T.B.+ 1	-	4	4	1	5	14	
T.B.+ 2	3	-	4	1	24	32	
T.B.+ 3	-	-	-	1	10	11	147
1932 T.B.-	8	41	26	4	13	92	
T.B.+ 1	1	-	4	-	3	8	
T.B.+ 2	3	-	4	5	21	33	
T.B.+ 3	-	-	-	-	10	10	143
1933 T.B.-	6	19	28	5	9	67	
T.B.+ 1	1	3	4	1	3	12	
T.B.+ 2	7	3	7	-	27	44	
T.B.+ 3	-	-	2	1	4	7	130

1934.	T.B.-	6	32	32	4	6	80	
	T.B.+ 1	-	-	-	-	1	1	
	T.B.+ 2	1	2	10	5	21	39	
	T.B.+ 3	-	-	-	-	2	2	122
1935.	T.B.-	12	44	27	6	5	94	
	T.B.+ 1	-	-	2	-	-	2	
	T.B.+ 2	6	1	9	2	14	32	
	T.B.+ 3	-	-	1	1	8	10	138
1936.	T.B.-	1	20	31	3	9	64	
	T.B.+ 1	1	-	1	-	-	2	
	T.B.+ 2	2	1	14	7	9	33	
	T.B.+ 3	-	-	9	7	14	30	129
1937.	T.B.-	8	18	29	5	4	64	
	T.B.+ 1	-	-	2	-	1	3	
	T.B.+ 2	5	-	6	6	3	20	
	T.B.+ 3	1	-	6	9	18	34	121
1938.	T.B.-	4	25	44	1	5	79	
	T.B.+ 1	2	1	3	-	-	6	
	T.B.+ 2	3	1	11	7	2	24	
	T.B.+ 3	1	-	4	9	18	32	141
1939.	T.B.-	5	6	68	4	4	87	
	T.B.+ 1	-	-	9	-	1	10	
	T.B.+ 2	3	-	10	8	7	28	
	T.B.+ 3	6	-	9	14	26	55	180
1940	T.B.-	5	19	51	1	3	79	
	T.B.+ 1	1	2	1	6	-	10	
	T.B.+ 2	-	-	15	26	3	44	
	T.B.+ 3	2	-	1	11	11	25	158
1941	T.B.-	15	6	47	7	9	84	
	T.B.+ 1	-	-	9	-	-	9	
	T.B.+ 2	4	-	27	6	5	42	
	T.B.+ 3	3	-	3	11	10	27	162
1942	T.B.-	4	1	56	5	3	69	
	T.B.+ 1	-	-	10	2	-	12	
	T.B.+ 2	4	-	28	5	3	40	
	T.B.+ 3	6	-	-	20	11	37	158
1943	T.B.-	-	-	64	3	2	69	
	T.B.+ 1	2	-	13	1	-	16	
	T.B.+ 2	1	-	22	8	2	33	
	T.B.+ 3	2	-	-	30	7	39	157
1944	T.B.-	6	1	72	2	-	81	
	T.B.+ 1	-	-	20	-	-	20	
	T.B.+ 2	-	-	7	32	-	39	
	T.B.+ 3	2	-	-	36	2	40	180
TOTALS		187	389	937	342	502	2357	2357

COUNTY LABORATORY

During the year 19693 specimens were examined.

ROUTINE EXAMINATIONS	Positive	Negative	Total	TOTALS
Diphtheria swabs	79	2,375	2,454	
Sputum (T.B.)	393	1,593	1,986	
Ringworm	53	80	133	
Enteric fever (Widal)	119 sera were examined		119	4,692
MILK - CLEANLINESS	Passed	Failed	Total	
Ordinary	242	200	442	
Accredited	623	414	1,037	

MILK - CLEANLINESS (Cont.)

TOTALS

	Passed	Failed	Total	
T.T.	514	201	715	
Pasteurised	-	31	138	
School Milk	77	71	148	
P.A. Inst.	59	77	136	
P.H. Inst.	4	4	8	2,624

MILK - TUBERCULOSIS

	Positive	Negative	Inconclusive	Total	
Bulk samples	4	268	15	287	
Ministry of Agric.	3	47	1	51	
	<u>7</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>338</u>	338

MILK - MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATIONS

During the year 59 specimens were examined.

By Veterinary surgeons	25	
By sanitary inspectors	34	59

WATER

During the year 1,220 samples from public supplies were examined.

Satisfactory	491	
Doubtful	72	
Unsatisfactory	471	
E.P.H.L.S.	38	
D.W.A.E.C.	30	
School	101	
Metals	13	
Hardness	4	1,220

VENEREAL DISEASES

Wassermann tests	3,323	
Gonococci (micro)	1,297	
G.C.F.T.	1,119	
Spirochaetes	15	5,754

GENERAL BACTERIOLOGY

T.B.	Faeces	1	
	Pus	25	
	Urine	112	
	Gastric contents	22	
	C.S. Fluids	17	
	Pleural "	9	
	Glands	3	189
Enteric	Faeces	651	
	Urine	71	
	Blood Cults	3	
	Ice Cream	1	
	Sea water	4	730
	Swabs - Haemolytic Streptococci		3,494
	Blood Cultures	2	
	Biological tests	57	
	Virulence tests	13	
	Superannuation	18	
	Foodstuffs	87	
	G.C. Cultures	289	
	Blood films	78	
	Water	12	
	Washings	10	
	Glandular fever	5	
	Milk	20	
	Vaccine	2	<u>593</u>

19,693

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Notification of Births. The following births were notified during 1945 as compared with 1944. (These do not correspond with the number of births supplied by the Registrar-General).

	<u>1945</u>	<u>1944</u>
Notified by Medical Practitioners	1093	1189
Notified by Midwives	4231	5151
Reported by Registrars as non-notified	211	201
	<u>5535</u>	<u>6541</u>

Infant Mortality Rate - 47.2.

Stillbirths. There were 188 notified during the year compared with 118 during 1944.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. During the year 11 cases were notified as compared with 7 cases in 1944.

The Health Visitors have investigated 16 cases and reported as follows:-

Treated at home	8	Treated in Hospital.....	2
Vision unimpaired	10	Vision impaired	0

Maternal Mortality - Rate for the year - 2.0.

Puerperal and Post Abort. Sepsis 0.53.

Other causes - 1.4.

During the year 10 cases were investigated where the certificate indicated that the fatalities were associated with pregnancy or parturition.

Ante and Postnatal Clinics

- Barnstaple - During the year there were 48 sessions and 716 attendances were made.
- Ilfracombe - During the year there were 48 sessions and 507 attendances were made.
- Newton Abbot - During the year there were 58 sessions and 470 attendances were made.
- Paignton - During the year there were 48 sessions and 244 attendances were made.

Antenatal and Postnatal Examinations. (General Practitioner Scheme).

1904 applications for payment of fees were received (as compared with 1958 in 1944). Of this number 1059 were for both ante and postnatal examinations.

Consultants Scheme. There were 275 applications as compared with 237 in 1944. Of this number 72 received X-Ray examinations.

Institutional Provision for Maternity Patients. 1513 applications were approved as compared with 1198 in 1944.

Home Helps. 123 applications were approved as compared with 121 in 1944.

Maternity Outfits. 334 outfits were supplied during the year as compared with 410 in 1944. Of this number 41 were supplied free of charge.

Fees to Medical Practitioners called in by Midwives. 1279 claims were passed for payment.

Health Visiting. During the year Health Visitors paid the following visits:-

Expectant mothers	2872
Children under 1 year (first visits)	6748
do. (re-visits)	24926
Children 1 to 5 years	31937
Boarded-out children	1728
Tuberculosis cases	1036

County Maternity Home, Riversdale, Ilfracombe. During the year 227 cases were admitted to this home. There were 4 stillbirths and 4 infants died within 10 days of birth.

County Maternity Home, The Grove, Sidmouth. This 8 bedded unit was taken over from the Ministry of Health on 1st April. 43 patients were admitted during the year (three after delivery). There were no stillbirths, but 2 infants died within 10 days of birth.

Care of unmarried mothers and illegitimate children. Arrangements have been made for unmarried mothers and illegitimate children to be dealt with on the lines suggested in Ministry of Health Circular 2866. The four County Welfare Officers combine this work with their other duties, and the Diocesan and Moral Welfare Workers in the County also co-operate.

Care of Premature Infants. The "notification of birth" card now in use in the County indicates the birth weight of a child if this is less than $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Two sets of premature baby equipment have been obtained for issue on loan when required. All notifications of premature births are specially followed up by Health Visitors.

The births of 74 premature infants were notified during the year, 36 of whom were born in hospitals and institutions. 47 infants were surviving at the end of one month from the date of birth.

Promotion of cleanliness and good habits and the elimination of verminous conditions. Special attention is given by Health Visitors to these matters at welfare centres and domiciliary visits.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. At the 60 welfare centres in the County the following attendances were made:-

Mothers present	54135
Infants present.....	37930
Children 1 - 5	20225

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

Public Health Act, 1936
(Part 7, Section 206-220)

At the beginning of the year there were 252 children in the care of 154 foster mothers, and at the end of the year there were 360 foster children and 220 foster mothers.

During the year the Health Visitors who are Child Life Protection Visitors under the Act, paid 1728 visits during the year.

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (Regulation) Act, 1939

Number of persons who gave notice under Section 7(3) 24.
Number of children under supervision at the end of the year 17.

MENTAL HEALTH

REPORT OF COUNTY PSYCHIATRIST

Because of my absence during the greater part of the period under review, I am unable to submit a detailed report. The chief impression obtained on return to duty after 6 years absence is that the work on the Mental Deficiency side is considerably increased.

The shortage of vacancies in Certified Institutions which is not peculiar to this County but is nation wide, is very acutely felt. It is essential that somehow or another accommodation especially for higher grade cases and low grade girls should be increased in the near future. No doubt part of the apparent increase in the work is due to the greater activity on the part of Courts in seeking psychiatric advice. All over,

the impression is gained of a more enlightened attitude to mental deficiency, not merely on the part of Courts but also of the general public. It is becoming increasingly recognised by the laity and those unfamiliar with mental deficiency work whether on the administrative or the medical side, that commitment to an Institution does not mean a life sentence but that the training afforded in an Institution is very often the avenue to a more useful and more stable life in the outside world.

The problem of staffing in the Institutions is of course acute but again this problem is not unique to this area. Much credit is due to the Superintendents of the four Institutions for the smooth, efficient and kindly way in which their Institutions are managed which is clearly reflected in the results obtained.

During 1945, 58 new cases were notified to the Mental Deficiency Committee as requiring action to be taken under the Acts such as Institutional care or Statutory Supervision and orders for Institutions. Of this number the following cases were dealt with by the Justices:-

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Tiverton | 1. Devon Assizes |
| 1. Paignton | 1. Holsworthy |
| 1. Newton Abbot | 1. Lifton |
| 3. Secretary of State | |

At the end of the year there were:-

- 23 cases under Guardianship
- 183 on resident licence from Institutions.
- 743 under Order.
- 12 place of safety.
- 124 under Statutory Supervision of the Devon Voluntary Association.

The number of Devon cases in various Institutions was as follows, in December 1945:-

Institution	Males	Females	Total
R.W.C.I., Starcross	192	158	350
Box House	144	-	144
	(+ 4 out County Patients)		
Western Lodge	-	99	99
		(+ one out County Patient).	
Stoke Lyne	29		
	(+ 13 out County Patients)		
Franklyn	11	29	40
	(+ 10 out County Patients)		
		(+ 16 out County Patients)	
D. & Exeter Home	-	43	43
Rampton State Institution	6	11	17
Moss Side State Institution	2	2	4
Princess C.F. Colony	-	1	1
Mount Tabor, B' Stoke	-	1	1
Stapleton, Bristol	-	1	1
Stoke Park	1	4	5
St. Mary's, Alton	-	3	3
Royal Fort Home, Bristol	-	3	3
Guardianship	7	12	19
L/A from Guardianship and Institution	84	103	187
	476	473	949
Permissive "Raleigh House"	-	3	3
" Elizabeth Barclay	-	3	3
" Royal Earleswood	-	1	1
" Franklyn	-	1	1
	476	481	957

COURT AND PRISON CASES

During the year it had been the practice to see cases referred by contiguous authorities including the Counties of Cornwall and Somerset, but new arrangements will have to be made in regard to these cases for the future as this side of the work has increased enormously.

BOX HOUSE, AXMINSTER

The Board of Control's Certificate has been increased to 151, and at the moment there are 149 patients resident in the Institution, 15 out on Resident Licence and one patient in the Devon Mental Hospital. There have been 2 deaths, both from natural causes.

Daily licence from the Institution still remains a big incentive to the 16 who are employed on farms and in private houses to a greater feeling of freedom and good behaviour, each patient receives as before 5/- pocket money per week. There are still 45 patients on Parole with the same privileges, i.e., allowed out on their own Saturday and Sunday afternoons, they may visit the local Cinema any evening they wish except Sunday, and occasionally in parties visit the local seaside, and Exeter. They do not retire to bed until 10 o'clock.

The resumption of the annual Scout Camp for one week under canvas was enjoyed by 26 scouts under their Scout Master and Assistant Scout Master, at Beer, Nr. Seaton. They also meet each week for the usual Scouting activities. This is an ideal calling for the Mental Defective and calls for considerably increasing the number of Troops as most grades can be catered for. They have had one or two journeys away, one when they attended the Seaton Rally and recently they had a week-end Camp, when they saw the Chief Scout. The field in front of the Institution is one of our biggest assets, in which we hold, as often as possible, Football, Cricket and any other out-door game. The occupations in the various shops and the gardens employ two thirds of the patients, and these show a profitable return.

The staffing position is good and conditions have recently been improved under the Rushcliffe recommendations in regard to Salaries.

In regard to the Health of the Patients and Staff, this remains very good. The Medical Officer, County Dental Surgeon, and County Ophthalmic Surgeon have made their usual visits

With the cessation of hostilities three of the permanent Staff have returned to their duties. Although food rationing is still with us we have been able to carry on very well, as catering for a large number is much easier than for a few. The garden has augmented the feeding position very much, and in the near future two more acres will come under cultivation, employing patients.

WESTERN LODGE

There is very little different to report this year, everything following much the same lines as in previous years.

The health of the patients has been very good and no infectious illness to report.

A large proportion enjoy parole in the Town or surrounding country. About twenty of the patients go out to daily work and there is great competition for this privilege.

The Staffing situation has been bad all the year and at times very acute.

The Handicrafts Dept., is a great source of occupation and a most successful sale was held in December, realising £324.

STOKE LYNE

(boys up to 16 years, and 8 female working patients)

During the year the general health of the patients has been good, with no serious illness.

Staff shortage was very acute and during a period, 11 of the boys had to be sent on licence to their homes and 8 little boys to Western Lodge, Crediton.

The staffing position improved somewhat at the end of the year and all the children returned to the Institution. Nevertheless, the boys were kept well occupied and a sale of their handwork held in December realised £75.0.1d.

Some urgently needed renovations were carried out.

Admissions during the year	- 12
Transfers and discharges	- 6

FRANKLYN HOME

This Institution, which is certified by the Board of Control to accommodate 50 low grade mentally defective children of both sexes, most of whom are cot and chair cases, and 17 high grade female patients, was presented as a gift to the County Council by the Exeter Diocesan Committee, who are the trustees of the Home.

On the 1st January, 1945, when the County Council took over the administration of the Institution, there were 52 children, of whom 24 were out-county cases, and 17 high grade patients in residence. 6 out on Licence employed on domestic work. 9 patients, (2 males and 7 females), were transferred to other institutions.

During the year there were 4 deaths (2 males and 2 females) assigned to natural causes. 1 child (female) sustained a fractured femur, confirmed by x-ray report, for which no known cause was discovered. 10 children were in bed with 48 hour influenza. 1 child had Pneumonia, and there were 13 cases of Chickenpox. These cases were attended by the Medical Officer, who at other times throughout the year made frequent visits to the Institution.

The working patients were remunerated as follows:- Laundry Charge Hand 10/- per month; Assistant Cook 6/- per month, and the others 3/6d. per month. A visit to the cinema is arranged for these patients once a month, and daily walks outside the Institution. They also attend Divine Service at the local Parish Church every Sunday evening.

The nursing staff consists of 1 Matron-Superintendent, 1 Assistant Matron, 5 Assistant Nurses and 1 part-time nurse working 6½ hours for 5 days a week. The domestic staff consists of 1 cook 1 seamstress working a 30 hour week, 2 gardeners working a 48 hour week.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Arrangements were continued for the diagnosis and treatment of patients suffering from venereal diseases at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Torbay Hospital, North Devon Infirmary (Annexe), Barnstaple, and the City Hospital, Plymouth. Female in-patients are also sent to St. Mary's Home, Exeter, for observation and treatment.

The total number of new County cases attending for out-patient treatment at the Centres during 1945 was 641 compared with 652 in 1944. 49 new in-patients received treatment compared with 39 for 1944.

Up to the end of 1945 the names of 45 medical practitioners had been placed on the list of those qualified to administer salvarsan substitutes, and 211 supplies were sent out during the year compared with 149 in the previous year.

The total number of specimens examined for V.D. during the year at the County Laboratory was 5,754 compared with 5517 in 1944.

It was found necessary to repay the sum of £75.3.1. to patients for expenses incurred in travelling to the nearest clinics, compared with £94.9.11. in 1944, and £114.1.2½. in 1943.

The following table shows the number of persons who attended for the first time, and the total number of attendances of all persons at the clinics during the years 1943 to 1945:-

	<u>1943</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1945</u>
1. Number dealt with at or in connection with the out-patient clinics for the first time	518	652	641
2. Total attendances of all persons residing in the administrative County	12,168	10,810	9,003

General Practitioner V.D. Scheme

Under this scheme general practitioners who have been approved by the Ministry of Health are provided by the County Council with certain equipment and are paid for the treatment of patients in accordance with the scale laid down. This scheme is intended chiefly to provide treatment facilities for persons living in areas not easily accessible to one of the County Treatment Centres. Twenty-one doctors have been approved to work under this scheme.

Regulation 33(b).

The above Regulation provides for the compulsory treatment of venereal diseases in certain circumstances. The Regulation imposes duties upon Medical Officers of Health and Special Practitioners. Special Practitioners are defined in the Regulation as follows:-

- (a) a registered medical practitioner who is qualified under the Local Government (Qualification of Medical Officers and Health Visitors) Regulation 1930, to be a venereal diseases officer, or who is or has been a venereal diseases officer by virtue of a dispensation given by the Minister;
- (b) a Medical Officer of the Royal Navy, the Army or the Royal Air Force or of the Dominions or of the Women's Forces employed for the time being as a specialist in venereal diseases;
- (c) any other registered medical practitioner designated by the Minister of Health for the purposes of the Regulation.

A practitioner wishing to be approved under (c) has to apply to the County or County Borough Medical Officer of Health who will forward the application with his recommendation to the Minister of Health

During the year 99 contacts were notified on Form 1, and in respect of 11 of these a second notification was received. Of these 11 cases, 7 were served with an official notice to attend for examination, and all complied. In 2 cases the suspected person had transferred to another area, and the information was passed on to the Medical Officer of Health concerned, and in 2 cases the contacts could not be traced. Where only 1 notification is received it is not possible to take legal action to force a contact to attend for examination, but every effort is made to get the contact to attend voluntarily..

RIVERS POLLUTION PREVENTION

Inspection of Rivers in connection with Pollution were greatly curtailed during the year, partly due to travel restrictions and partly to the increase in other work. Observations, when possible, were made of the Rivers Culm, Erme, Dart and Torridge, and samples taken as indicated. Pollution of the River Culm in its lower reaches continues to be marked and the River Erme has also shown some evidence of pollution on occasions.

Difficulties have been encountered in obtaining curtailment of pollution of streams, used as water courses for cattle, from certain military establishments. In all cases fullest representation has been made to the Authorities concerned to abate the pollution.

COUNTY SANITARY INSPECTORS

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during the year:-

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS

Inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	Nil
Number of water samples submitted	...	...	...	4

RIVERS POLLUTION AND WATER SUPPLIES

Visits of inspection	...	...	...	7
Visits to investigate complaints	...	...	...	15
Samples of river water	...	...	...	4
Water samples (Bacteriological and Chemical)			...	181
Surveys of water supplies and sewage disposal schemes..				17

MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS

Accredited Herds - Inspection of premises of new applicants	...	180
Re-inspections of approved producers		291
Inspections for bottling licences ..		27
Tuberculin Tested Herds - Inspection of premises of new applicants	...	87
Re-inspection of approved producers		171
Inspections for bottling licences ..		17
Milk in Schools Scheme - Inspection of premises	...	91
Milk supplies to Council's Institutions - Inspection of premises	...	117
Visits to 'Ordinary' herds for Mastitis & Undulant Fever	...	-
Samples of Milk	...	93

MILK DEPOTS AND FACTORIES

Visits and inspections	...	37
Washings of churns submitted for bacteriological examination	...	124
Washings of bottles submitted for bacteriological examination	...	19
Number of Pasteurised milk samples	...	198

GENERAL

Visits to Schools	...	3
Consultations with District Sanitary Inspectors etc.	...	471
Investigation of other complaints	...	17

MILK

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926,
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 & 1938 .

The following is a summary of the work in connection with the supervision of milk supplies:-

During the year ended 31st December 1945, 10,267 Veterinary Inspections were carried out, and the following table shows the number of animals examined and the number found to have indurated udders or to be giving milk unfit for human consumption for reasons other than tuberculosis:-

	NUMBER	DESIGNATION		
		T.T.	ACCRED.	ORD.
EXAMINED	146,855	17,455	34,310	95,090
WITH INDURATED UDDERS	133	5	76	52
MILK UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION	101	3	14	84

Examination of the milk from abnormal udders has shown that 40 out of the total number of animals examined were giving tuberculous milk. The cows giving tuberculous milk have been slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Orders, while steps have been taken to prevent the milk from other cows, returned as unfit, from reaching the public.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS 1936 AND 1938	NEW APPLICA- TIONS APPROVED	NUMBER IN FORCE AT END OF YEAR	NO. OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED	NO. OF SAMPLES FAILED	PERCENT- AGE
ACCREDITED LICENCES	43	812	995	403+	40.5
TUBERCULIN TESTED	43	234	700	224+	32.0

+ INCLUDES REPEAT SAMPLES.

The majority of milk samples are submitted by the Local Sanitary Inspectors in the County, the remainder being taken by the County Sanitary Inspectors and Dairy Instructresses.

SUMMARY OF CANCELLED, SUSPENDED OR TRANSFERRED LICENCES:-

				Accred.	T.T.
Cancelled by Committee ...	...	...	...	-	-
Suspended ...	...	...	...	-	-
Withdrawn (Producer deceased) ...	...	...	...	2	-
" (Producer left farm) ...	...	...	...	38	7
Transferred from Accredited to T.T. ...	...	...	...	34	-
" " T.T. to Accredited ...	...	...	...	-	1
Licences transferred to other members of family etc. ...	...	...	...	15	1

MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME

During the year the herds of producers supplying milk under this scheme have been examined quarterly, and samples of milk submitted from any suspicious cows.

136 bulk samples of milk from these producers have been taken by the Local Sanitary Inspectors for cleanliness, and of these 48 have failed to reach the required standard - this number includes repeat samples.

SCHEME FOR THE CONTROL OF MASTITIS AND OTHER DISEASES IN DAIRY HERDS.

The following is an extract from the report by Mr. D. MacPherson, M.R.C.V.S., who with an assistant veterinary surgeon attached to Seale-Hayne College, has been appointed to investigate cases of mastitis and other diseases in dairy herds.

In so far as the control of Mastitis is concerned it has been the practice during the present year where possible to follow up all cases of mastitis revealed as a result of clinical examinations carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Veterinary Inspectors. This has been done in co-operation with the local practitioners. Often farmers

do not know whether a cow should be disposed of immediately or kept in isolation and treated. Further, where treatment is contemplated it is important that the nature of infection present be accurately determined so that the appropriate treatment can be carried out. This can only be done by bacteriological examination of cows. Similarly, when treatment has been carried out, Veterinary Surgeons are not always sure if it has been effective in the absence of an examination of the milk, they therefore welcome the services of the Scheme in carrying out the above enquiries.

A total of 254 herds were found to have clinical mastitis in the herd involving on the average about 1.5% of cows.

Several enquiries and investigations have been made in connection with suspected outbreaks of food poisoning and undulant fever. This work has been carried out in conjunction with local medical practitioners, local medical officers of health, and the County Bacteriologist. In so far as these conditions are concerned it is not always a simple matter to decide as to what action should be taken, apart from requiring pasteurisation of the milk supply. Where investigations have been carried out every help has been given by the County Medical Department, including the County Laboratory, Medical Officers of Health, and farmers and dairymen. Full details of these investigations will be given in the report now being prepared.

Another problem that has called for enquiries, is the all too prevalent one of reported low solids not fat in milk and in some cases low fat content of milk supplies. The prevalence of low solids not fat in milk and the reason for such findings is not easy to explain and it would seem that here is a problem that requires the fullest investigation in the interests of all concerned with milk production and administration of the laws pertaining to the sale of milk. From a number of enquiries and investigations I have carried out in herds having a history of low solids not fat in milk, I am of the opinion that different factors may predispose to or be directly responsible for these findings. I do feel, however, that indurative conditions of the udder, perhaps the result of a previous mastitis or of a latent form of mastitis, may so alter the structure of the gland as to cause an alteration in the mechanism of milk secretion. I should be glad to learn if possible, of all cases, of reported solids not fat so that if it is considered desirable I could pursue the enquiries.

A total of 272 visits were paid to farms to give advice, examine herds, and take milk samples. 6,506 cows were clinically examined at these visits and 479 milk samples taken for bacteriological examination. These examinations revealed that 18.5% of the samples were infected with streptococci, and approximately 13% with staphylococci; 17.5% with mixed infection.

1,341 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination by veterinary surgeons, dairy instructresses and farmers, and reports made.

Advice by phone, letter, etc. was given on 720 occasions.

Part is being taken in an experiment arranged by the Agricultural Research Council to determine the relative value of Penicillin and Sulphanilamide in the control of streptococcal mastitis. The indications to date are that Penicillin is the more successful preparation in the treatment of this condition, but it is difficult to say at the moment what the results are likely to be. These results will be recorded in the full report which is being prepared.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938: OTHER PROVISIONS

All functions relating to the sale of Food and Drugs are discharged by the Police. There are no special County Inspectors. Samples are taken regularly by the Police Officers and submitted to the Public Analyst, Mr. T. Tickle for analysis. The latter submits a report to the Public Health Committee at the end of each quarter.

The following gives details of the specimens submitted to the County Analyst during the year:-

ARTICLE.	NUMBER OF SAMPLES		NUMBER OF ADULTERATIONS		NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS		AMOUNT OF FINES AND COSTS
	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945
NEW MILK	621	539	101	62	35	35	£174.14.2.
BREAD	5	2	-	-	-	-	-
PEPPER	21	32	-	-	-	-	-
PUDDING & CAKE MIXTURE	29	-	8	-	-	-	-
VINEGAR	28	39	-	6	-	3	-
MARGARINE	37	37	-	-	-	-	-
LARD & COOKING FAT	23	32	-	-	-	-	-
SUGAR	16	17	-	-	-	-	-
OATMEAL & ROLLED OATS	14	5	3	-	-	-	-
MUSTARD	8	4	-	-	-	-	-
BAKING POWDER	16	12	-	-	-	-	-
COFFEE & CHICORY	7	39	-	-	-	-	-
BUTTER	47	43	-	-	-	-	-
TEA	6	7	-	-	-	-	-
CHEESE	7	11	-	-	-	-	-
SWEETS	18	18	-	-	-	-	-
FLOUR	19	31	4	-	-	-	-
SEMOLINA	8	7	3	-	-	-	-
CIDER	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
RUM	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
ALE, WHISKY & BEER	25	49	1	-	1	-	£2.10.6.
COCOA	9	13	-	-	-	-	-
RICE	10	23	-	-	-	-	-
TUMERIC	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
GROUND GINGER	2	4	1	-	-	-	-
MIXED SPICE	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
GIN	25	24	3	1	3	1	£13. 2.0.
MISCELLANEOUS	10	26	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1019	984	124	69	39	39	£190. 6.8.

